

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR CH US

SUBJECT: WANG HAI-JUNG ON SINO-U.S. RELATIONS

REF: PEKING 1283, PEKING 1288

1. MEETING JULY 28 WITH CONGRESSIONAL STAFF DELEGATION
(TRANSCRIPT BY SEPTTEL), VICE FOREIGN MINISTER WANG HAI-JUNG LARGELY
PARROTED THE STRONG REMARKS ABOUT TAIWAN THAT VICE PREMIER CHANG
CHUN-CHIAO HAD MADE TO CODEL SCOTT. WANG IN ADDITION TWICE USED
THE "U.S. OWES US A DEBT" LINE.

2. IN CONTRAST TO CHANG, WANG DID NOT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT PLA
ACTIVITIES IN FUKIEN. AND IN MANNER SHE DID NOT PROJECT AS MUCH
BELLICOSITY AS CHANG HAD. BUT HER ESSENTIAL MESSAGE WAS THE
SAME: PEKING FORESEES A MILITARY SOLUTION TO THE TAIWAN
PROBLEM AND THE U.S. HAD BETTER NOT BE IN THE MIDDLE WHEN THAT
TIMES COMES. SOME QUALIFICATIONS IN HER REMARKS ON TAIWAN, NOT
CONTAINED IN CHANG'S, MAY BE SIGNIFICANT (THESE ARE SHOWN IN
QUOTES). A. THE U.S. SHOULD TAKE OFF THE NOOSE AROUND ITS
NECK (THE TAIWAN ISSUE) "FORTHWITH." B. IF WE DO NOT, THE
"IT IS POSSIBLE" (OR "VERY POSSIBLE"--"HEN KE NENG") THE PLA
"ONE DAY" WILL HELP US TAKE IT OFF.

3. THIS TIME IT CLEARLY WAS THE CHINESE WHO INITIATED THE TOPIC.
EVEN THE STAFFDEL'S OFFICIAL HOST KO PO-NIEN, A RELATIVELY
UNPOLITICAL VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CPIFA, INTRODUCED TAIWAN
DURING WELCOMING BANQUET CONVERSATION JULY 29 WITH STAFFDEL

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CO-LEADER PAT HOLD, ASKING HOW IT WAS THAT THE U.S. STILL HAD

PEOPLE ON TAIWAN FOUR AND A HALF YEARS AFTER THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.

4. AFTER THE STAFFDEL'S MEETING WITH WANG, NANCY TANG (TANG WEN-SHENG) WAS ASKED BY STAFFDEL MEMBER RICHARD MOOSE WHY WANG HAD TAKEN SUCH A TOUGH STANCE. TANG INDICATED PRC WAS REACTING TO STATEMENTS BY RESPONSIBLE FIGURES IN THE U.S. PRESSED ON WHOM SHE MEANT, TANG CITED ONLY TWO EXAMPLES: SENATOR GOLDWATER AND THE NEW YORK TIMES.

5. LIKE SCOTT'S GROUP, THE STAFFDEL WAS SURPRISED BY THE DISPLAY OF IMPATIENCE OVER TAIWAN AND THE STRESS ON A MILITARY SOLUTION. STAFFDEL MEMBERS HAVE BEEN CAUTIONED BY CO-LEADERS HOLT AND CZARNECKI TO TREAT WANG'S REMARKS AS CONFIDENTIAL PENDING REPORTS TO THE VARIOUS CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES. BUT THIS PERFORMANCE WITH STAFFDEL, FOLLOWING THE ONE WITH SCOTT, DEFINITELY SUGGESTS THE CHINESE HAVE DECIDED TO "GO PUBLIC" WITH A LINE THAT (WHETHER CHINESE APPRECIATE IT OR NOT) WILL DISTURB MANY IN THE U.S. WHO FAVOR NORMALIZATION AND CAUSE REJOICING AMONG MANY WHO OPPOSE IT. THE STAFFDEL MEMBERS PERCIEVE THIS, ARE PUZZLED, AND HAVE PROBED US HARD FOR AN EXPLANATION. WHILE TRYING TO PUT THE MATTER IN CONTEXT (E.G. WE NOTED WANG'S POINTING OUT COMMON INTERESTS ASIDE FROM THE NORMALIZATION ISSUE), WE'VE BEEN FRANK TO SAY THAT WE'RE SORT OF PUZZLED, TOO. OUR SPECULATION ON CHINESE MOTIVATIONS FOLLOWS BY SEPTEL.

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